FROM VIRGINIA.

CAPITOL SQUARE-STATE PRIDE Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribane.

RICHMOND, Va., Sept. 10, 1857. The State House in this city is quite in keeping with the worn-out and forlors appearance of the State, so far as I have seen it. The Capitol Square, abating the Governor's house and some other buildings on the east side, is a beautiful spot, prettily haid out, and adorned with trees. One thing struck me very curiously. Along the various avenues, in well shaded places, were to be seen some antiquated seats, which are modeled after the seats in the old New-England meeting-houses, evidently designed to be as uncomfortable as possible. Each seat is partitioned from its neighbor by a section stiff and upright enough to please a Close-communion Baptist. The back of the seat is quite perpendicular, and yet all ever the grounds were printed signs forbidding persons to go to sleep in these fanous seats! Can the people of this city be so sleepy that a stringent the people of this city be so sleepy that a stringent law is necessary to prevent their exercising this propensity in those straight-jacket seats in Capitol Square? Were I riding on a rail, would it not be a joke for one to warn me not to go to sleep there!

Among the undoubted possessions of Virginia is a towering State pride. It is highly edifying to hear the people talk of Virginia, of its Old Families, their bold deeds, their chivalry, their great men, their patriotism and devotion—especially to the interests of Virginia. After taking a very careful glance at large parts of Virginia, reading the account given of her impoverished lands in the Life of John given of her impoverished lands in the Life of John Randolph, looking in vain for a single great statesman, lawyer, preacher, physician or author, and seeing the whole force of society now running to seed in slave-breeding. I was reminded of the Irishman's description of his family: "they were like a "hill of potatoes—the best of them were under "ground!" But for all-this, Virginis is proud as she can be of her past history, and perhaps this feeling is enhanced by the very few causes which

exist for pride at her present condition.

The Washington Monument, in Capitol square, promises to be a splendid affair. The very beautiful foundations and pedestals for the various statues in the group are already done. I am no architect, no artist, and cannot say why I am so pleased with the arrangements, only that my mind is gratified. Our countryman Crawford has conceived an atmi-rable design, and should he be able to complete it will have put Virginia in the very front rank, so far as monumental honors to Washington are con-cerned. Many years ago a plan for some fitting monument was started, and it was designed to be the sign of popular love, so that no one person was to give more than one dollar to the In this way, as I am told, some thirty thousand was raised, and there the enterprise came to a stand. The sum was not sufficient to do what was intended, and it was not likely to be increased. It was at last resolved to place this money in the State Treasury, the State agreeing to pay interest thereon. At last principal and interest amounted to some sixty-five thousand dollars. and then the State legislature passed a law to erect a suitable monument, which will cost about two hundred and fifty thousan dollars. They use the fund already accumulated and pay the balance out of the State Treasury. The central shaft is to be surmounted by an equestrian statue of Washington. This is now cast and is on its way to this country. On six shafts which are immediately about the central one, are to be placed six huge statues of native Virginians whose memory, deeds and opinions, their children would perpetuate. The statues of Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson are already in Richand it is understood that Mr. Crawford, if his health admits it, is to model the statues of George on, James Madison, Chief Justice Marshall, and another one whose name I did not learn. Originally Gen. Daniel Morgan, of Ritle Regiment notoriety, was to be honored, but his claim was rejected on account of his misfortune in being born in New-Jersey. Outside of these is another circle of shafts on which are to be placed allegorical representations of oratory, patriotism, philosophy, &c. If the statuary prove what every admirer of Washington and his illustrious cotemporaries desires, the monument will be one of the finest in this country. Standing by the unfinished monument which Virand another one whose name I did not learn. Orig-Standing by the unfinished monument which Vir-

ginia is now building to these great sons, I could not but think that it would be unsafe for a man to read aloud in any public assembly, legislative, refigious, educational or political, the sentiments of Washington and Jefferson on the subject of Slavery. I doubt whether one Virginian in a hundred knows that both these men reprobated the system in severe language, and that the Father of Country set his slaves at liberty. These men were the idols of Virginia, and yet if Washing-ton at Mount Vernen, and Jefferson at Monticello, should now be living to s, cak as they once spake, it is doubtful whether even they would be allowed to remain in the State which is building this splendid monument to their memory. They have imprisoned a woman for doing what Washington directed his executors to do viz: teaching colored people to read and write, and they have chased people out of the State for saying things identical with what Washington and Jefferson said. Yet, the whole State says, as a dirty, drabbled, ahrunken, drunken Virginian said to me in the hotel ahrunken, drunken Virginian said to me in the hotel in Philadelphia, as the tobacco-juice oozed out each corner of his dirty mouth, "I am a Virginian; Vir "ginia is a great State; Virginia is the mother of "Presidents!" Here is Virginia, with her How-don's Statue of Washington, and her Equestrian Statue of Washington building, and yet her Rich-mond daily disgraced with the most revolting spectacles connected with the slave-trade. The rail-roads which center here daily bring families here to be sold on the block. Here are slave-pens. The up to a million and a half of dollars a year, proud of herself and her present situation! I am hardly able to account for it, since I should say that Virginia ought to be modest in connecting herself with that good Old Dominion of the day of Washington and Jefferson, so long as Richmond is unpurged of sights which would have disgraced Tunis or Algiers thirty years ago. De gustibus nil dispusate and the support of the suppor of herself and her present situation! I am or Algiers thirty years ago. De gustibus nit dispu-adum; but were I a Virginian, I would say but title about Virginia's past history, and erect no fatnes to her great dead until the burning shame If Virginia's slave traffic is done away. That tatue of Washington would seem to remind the be-bolder of what he said to La Fayette, and what he wrote in his will concerning Slavery. And that salm, meditative countenance of Jefferson would re-mind one of his words: "I tremble for my country when I remember that God is just."

NORTHERN IOWA.

SETTLEMENT, CROPS, &c.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. St. Charles, Floyd Co., Iowa, Sept. 22, 1857. A six mosths' residence convinces me that Iowa is indeed a highly favored and noble State, and at presidence ent her natural resources are but partially developed. Some of the western counties are hardly organized, existing only in name. Emigration is rapidly filling these and occupying the unsettled portions elsewhere. From this point on the Cedar, large numbers pass north and south daily-it being one of the principal thoroughfares to and from southern Minnesota-50 miles to the line. The saverity of the past two Winters has had the effect to induce many to seek a home further south. Many are journeying to seek a home further south. Many are journeying to Kansas and Missouri; the impression that the latter will soon be a Free State greatly stimulates emigration from the Northern States. Considerable numbers have also emigrated to this State from the South, most of whom are strong and even bitter opponents of Slavery. Of the late Republican platform adopted at Iowa City, we can well be proud. The October Election will show a majority of live Republicans in the State.

Election will show a majority of live Republicans in the State.

In morals, education, climate, soil, productions, streams, water and water-power, timber, coal, lime, stone, and even marble in places along the Cedar, Northern Iowa will compare favorably with any portion of the Western States or Territories. Probably at this time no State is increasing more rapidly in population, wealth, and everything that makes a State desirable. Four railroads are constructing west from Burlington, Davenport, Dubuque, and the continuation of the Milwaukee and Missispipi from opposite its terminus at Prairie du Chien. Roads are in process of construction to intersect these at various paints.

one of which passes up the Cedar Valley and down the St. Peters to St. Paul. It commences at Clinton, opposite Dixon, Illinois, and is nearly completed to Cedar Rapida

are excellent. No frosts yet, and corn will be Crops are excellent. No frosts yet, and corn will be good. The prices of labor and most goods are considerably higher than in the Middle and New England States. Farmers, mechanics and laboring men and some an dowell in almost any place. Of professional men there is no lack, and many of them have to seek ether occupations. Send us good citizens of any and all rations, and they shall be welcome. Know-Nethingism is nowhere in lows.

J. W. S.

GREAT EXHIBITION AT EASTON, PA.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. EASTON, Pa., Sept 25, 1857. Our town is filled with strangers. The Second Annual Fair and Cattle Show of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Institute of this place commenced here on Tuesday last, and the number of visitors has exceeded al expectation. Yesterday 14,000 tickets were sold at the grounds, and it was estimated that the number of persons in attendance was about 20,000, and to-day the attendance is perhaps as large. The grounds are located about one mile west of the town and are ad-mirably adapted for agricultural and mechanical exhi-bitions. More than thirty acres are inclosed, and ele-that and substantial buildings have been erected upon the grounds at a cost of over \$25,000. The exhibition

the products a season a tear since was largely attended, but not so largely as the present one.

The display of agricultural products, agricultural ements, machinery, stock &c., is very good, se of the finest stock from New-Jersey and Penasylvania is here. Of fruits, there is a great variety of the choicest kinds. Mr. Frederick Seitz, of Easton, the choicest kinds. Mr. Frederick Settz, of Easton, exhibits many curious and valuable productions, from his farm, in this county, among which are some 30 varieties of grapes. Mr. David Connor, also of this place, exhibits a great variety of choice and rare agricultural products from his farm, near Easton. Mr. William F. Firmstone, of Glenden, in this county, is one of the largest exhibitors of superior imported stock, grains, &c. We cannot notice the articles in this brief letter, but may do so hereafter.

The display of horses is fine, and to-day and to-morrow there will be trials of speed, &c. for the premiums. The carriage park and track are well arranged, and thousands will be present to witness the race.

The address before the Society was delivered yesterday afternoon, by the Hon. J. M. Porter. It was able and eloquent, and was listened to by a large body of

THE STREET-CLEANING BUSINESS.

To the Tax payers of the City and County of New York.

GENTLEMEN: You will bear in mind that Mayor Wood addressed a communication to the Common Council, Aug. 2 last past, on the subject of street-

eleaning.

And in reply thereto. City Inspector Morton stated that the sum of \$12,000 for removing the ashes and garbage from thirteen Wards, for the two weeks ending July 11 1857, was not in reality an extravigant item

ing July 11 ISS7, was not in reality an extravigant item in cleaning the streets, from the fact that he had to remove the filth of eight months' accumulation.

Now, as I am familiar with the facts, I beg leave to make a reply. The pay-rolls of Wm. R. Reynolds curing the month of April and up to May 25 1837, show that he removed from the thirteen wards in question 130 000 loads, including ashes, garbage and citt—equal to 10,000 loads from each of said wards. This tact the City Inspector could not be ignorant of. Furthermore, he well knew that many of the streets in said wards were thoroughly cleaned three times, some said wards were thoroughly cleaned three times, some twice, and but few that were not cleaned once. As tion, there is one other very important fact to which I wish to call attention, and that is, if he had manifested the same amount of interest in aiding Reynolds to carry out his contract as he did to defeat and break it down there cannot exist a shadow of doubt to all unprejudiced minds that the condition of the streets would have left no cause of complaint.

would have left no cause of complaint.

At the time said R-ynolds entered into contract with the Corporation to clean said thirteen tract with the Corporation to clean said thirteen. Wards, the ordinance was in force which for ade the throwing of ashes and garbage in any of the streets. These ordinances said Reynolds had every reason to suppose would be strictly enforced by the city authorities, and it was, in fact, a part of the consideration upon which the undertaking was entered into to clean the streets in the manner prescribed. Consequently, the head of the Street-cleaning Department was in duty bound to see that the ordinances were strictly enforced. The attention of Mr. Morton was called to the fact, time and time again, that just were strictly enforced. The attention of Mr. Morton was called to the fact, time and time again, that just as fast as the fifth was removed, ashes and garbage were thrown broad-cast into the streets; and, notwitnstanding this state of things, he on no occasion in voked the aid of the city officials to remedy the evil. On the contrary, he thought this a very suitable occasion to inform Mr. Reynolds and the good citizens generally, by way of showing the fault of the contractor through the daily papers, of the numerous complaints daily pouring into his office of the filthy condition of the streets, when, in fact and in truth, the fault was in the head of the Department, for the reasons I have already assigned.

sons I have already assigned.

Again, by the specification of street-cleaning, the
Corporation reserves for itself the right to clean any Corporation reserves for itself the right to clean any street or streets after giving the contractor twenty four hours' notice, and the expenses so incurred are to be deducted out of the next pay, and so on, fron time to time, for the full term of the contract; and in case there is in the end a deficiency of the contract price to pay for the performance of the work, then, and then only, can the securities be held liable for the non-performance of the contract. This course is laid down to the reconstruction of streat elegating and it was the by the specification of street-cleaning, and it was the aly legal course to be pursued by the head of the

Again, by the terms of the contract the Corporation Agam, by the terms of the contract the Corporation agrees to pay every two weeks as the work progresses, in equal propertions of the contract price, but the City Inspector, instead of eigning Reynolds's warrants for his pay when the same fell due, refused to do so, not because he (Morton) had performed any part of the labor in cleaning any of the streets, which he says were so loudly complained of, and that he had, on that account a greater offset to make than there was posses. count, a greater offset to make than there was money due Reynolds at the time; nothing of this sort is set up in his plea; nor yet that there was not in fact sev-eral thousand dollars coming to Reynolds at the time; but his plea was that the streets were not cleaned as per agreement. Who then violated the terms and conditions of the contracts? The answer is, the Corporation, through the instrumentality of George

W. Morton, City Inspector.

First: Because he failed to enforce the ordinances

a consideration upon which the undertaking was

entered into.

Second: Because he did not perform the work which
Reynolds failed to do, according to the terms of the
agreement, and which he was bound to do.

Third: Because he refused to sign the warrants for Third: Because he refused to sign the warrants for that portion of the contract price agreed upon, he having no offset to make for the performance of any part of the work. One of the rules of constraing contracts is, "according to the understanding and intention of "the parties, and this intention is to be drawn from "the context of the instrument, taken as a whole." But about this time, City Inspector Morton mails a most astounding discovery; and that was, that no contract existed, from the fact that the Common Council had not approved the contract: that by an ordinance tract existed, from the fact that the Common Collection had not approved the contract; that by an ordinance it was provided that all contracts to be entered into by the appropriate heads of departments should be submitted to and be confirmed by the Common Connection.

Council.

Now had he manifested the same amount of interest Now had he manifested the same amount of interest in examining the City Charter, he would have arrived at the conclusion that the Common Council was never invested with any such anti-ority. I once read, in the case of Dunham vs. The Village of Rochester, in Cowens' Reportr, "Corporations must show their "powers or else their proceedings are void." Courts, I beheve, invariably hold this doctrine "Corporations have no powers except by the Charter under which "they exist, and when they transcend their powers "their acts are void. They have no implied powers, except such as are necessary to carry out the powers "expressed grant d." "Corporate powers are to be strictly construed," that is to say, against the Corporation and in favor of the citizen. That clause in the contract, "subject to the action of the Common Council," amounts to nothing.

contract, subject to the action of the Common Council," amounts to nothing.

The contract for cleaning the streats of the thirteen wards of this city was made and entered into by Joseph Ebling, then the head of the Street Depart. Joseph Ebling, then the head of the Street Department, and in pursuance of the city charter is such cases made and provided, Reynolds gave when he put in his bids the names of his securities. Mr. Ebling, Mr. Flagg and Mayor Wood signed the contract with Reynolds, and no objections to the adequacy or sufficiency of the securities were made by Ebling or Flagg at the time, and therefore there was to all intents and purposes a contract made and entered into by and between the head of the Street Department on the part of the city, and Wm. R. Reynolds of the other part, and approved and acknowledged by the Controller and the Mayor. These parties on the part of the city, with the exception of the Mayor, are the parties contemplated by the charter to make the contract, and the fact of the Mayor having signed it cannot in any way affect its validity.

One was Knows, and a Friend to Justice.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL VALE -Too Annual Fair of the Westchester Agricultural Society will be held this year in the village of Sing Sing, and commence to morrow (Tuesday), the 20th inst.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE PAIR.

Looms BY W. MASON & Co., TAUSTON, MISS -These looms are intended for heavy goods, such as osnaburge and sheetings. Most of the working machinery is of cast iron, which makes it comparatively heavy. They can be worked at the ve. why of one hundred and twenty bests an hour, but no more. They are substantially built and well calculated for the kind of work mentioned. They contain most of the usual arrangement, except the shuttle-guard.

LOOMS FROM THE EMPIRE WORKS Stockport, N. Y., patented by Reynolds in 1852.- These feems embody several improvements of a recent date. Tuey are in tended for light goods or prints, and are usually worked at the velocity of 160 beats a minute by a girl, who attends to four of them, but at the Crystal Paisce, where only one is in motion, and where the attendant is a man, the incredible velocity of 200 beats is reached. All the working parts are light, and wood instead of metal is used for connecting-rods, shuttle-binders, abuttles, gavels and others. The driving belt is round and the driving pulsey is cut with three grooves of different diameter, thus enabling the girls who are paid by the pi-ce to run the machine faster or slower according to their ability. This arrangement is good in a moral sense, since by exciting emulation and peconiary interest, it tends to make the operatives more skillful. This pulsey turns freely on the shaft, ard is always in motion when the power o the factory is. To connect the pully with the loom, there are isside of it, and on the shaft, three friction segments of circle covered with leather, which, by a kind of toggle joint, are strongly presse against the pulley outside of them, which they carry routd by friction. This device is extremely ingenious, much superior to the usual process of a fast and a free pulley-in this, that it allows of stopping the from more rapidly after the breaking of the thread, and it will prove useful in many machines beside looms. The device for making the loom stop by itself when the filing breaks, is in principle the ordinary one, but here for the wires which rest against the thread when not broken, and lefe the small hook which stops the motion when not lifted, are substi tuted small wooden sticks. These are often broken by the shuttle, and others are as easily substituted which is not the case when made of iron, of the same piece with the hook. If the fling breaks, the hook mentioned catches a lever, which, acting on several others, does at once unconnect the pulley from the shaft, raises a stopper in the way of the leg to stop its inomentum, and, by bringing a break to act on the shaft, prevents the leg from rebounding and turning beck the shaft. The stopper in this machine acts against the center of the leg This is better than acting agarst one end, as is usual; but it would be better yet to have one at each end. The picking stakes which threw the shuttle is usually a lever, working on a pin as a fulcrum; so that its upper end, resting against the shuttle, describes a circumference. In this machine it is made to move in a perfectly straight line by means of a rocking curve being substituted for a fulcrum. In W. Mason's looms a motion nearly straight is obtained, by having the fulcrum moveab in a vertical slot, and a pin on the stake a few inches higher, which slides against the arc of a circle, the cavity of which is turned upward. If this curve was shaped a little different from a circle, a perfect straight

line might be the result. The harness of Reynolds's loom, instead of being suspended by jacks, which are one on the left, the other on the right of the center, and attached to one roller below, are between two rollers, the one above, the other under the warp. This arrangement makes it more secure that the harness is pulled straight. The sbuttle-binders, which stop the shuttle at the end of its course by side friction, are, in ordinary looms, acted upon by stationary springs, so that the same amount of friction which is necessary to stop the shuttle has to be overcome for throwing it. In this machine a whole spring is acted upon by pins on the connecting rods that transmit the motion from the shaft to the leg, in such a manner that the binder begins to act the moment the shuttle enters the shuttle-box, and is liberated the moment the picking-stake begins its motion By this device the shuttle is stopped less suddenly than usual, and the picking begins at the earliest pos sible moment. This is the main reason why this loom can be worked so fast. An arrangement somewhat similar, but not so perfect, exists in W. Mason's loom; but, its parts being of metal, are more heavy. What makes the looms of the Empire Works more worthy of commendation from us is a wooden guard, which confines the shuttle between the head, the leg-sole and the reel without any possibility of escape. Such a guard, made of iron wire, exists in some looms, but it ought to be in all, as a broken thread in the way is apt to entangle it, and the slightest obstruction sends the shuttle flying in the face or breast of the attending girl, with sufficient force to knock out an eye or do

even more serious injury. MACHINE FOR INCREASING POWER, patented in May, 1857, by Mathage Kaefer, of Alexandria, Penn., is perpetual motion under another name, since it is alged to transmit more power than it receives. This machine stamps at once the inventor as a fool or a knave, and has not even the merit of being an ingenions puzzle. Under the title above, we have ascertained that the patent was issued on the 5th of May, 1857; and the claim ran thus: "Transmitting motion: I claim banging a loaded fly or balance-wheel on a traveling carriage so that said carriage shall yield to the momentum of the fly-wheel as it passes the dead

points, substantially in the manner set forth." Double-Acting Planing Machine-Mason's patent, Paterson, N. J.-is intended for planing metal. The tool is forged with two horns, each ground for cutting One acts during the forward stroke, the other during the return stroke. One is shaped for cutting, the other for smoothing. The tool-holder is arranged so as to turn the tool or incline it in any direction, so that both cutting edges can be placed in the proper relative position without extra labor in fitting them. This machine is much more simple than those known for the same purpose, in which the tool-holder is made to revolve a half circumference at each end of the stroke, so as to bring the cutting edge against the work.

LAPWELDED BOILER FLUES AND WROUGHT IRON Tunes, exhibited by A. B. Wood, New-York. There s a good show of these tubes, from a gag pipe up to those of 8 izches in diameter. These last are about an eighth of an inch in thickness, weigh about 15 pounds a foot, and are 25 feet long. Their prices range from 20 cents a pound for those one inch is diameter to 17 cents for the larger ones.

CITY CLOCKS .- Two of these instruments are on exhibition. They are in the west nave, and show the time to visitors. The smaller of the two, made at Sag Harbor, is perched on a wooden frame 12 feet high, with a pendulum about 10 feet long. The dial is about 4 feet in diameter; the hammer for striking the bell is about 30 pounds weight. It is built in what is termed a square frame, as is most usual. The larger clock is from Reeves & Co., New-York. The pendulum is only five feet long. Over the glass case that incloses the clock is a miniature square steeple, with four dials, one on each side. Tuese dials are only three feet in dismeter, but in practice they may be as large as ten without the action of the wind on the handle being able to overcome the moving machinery. A clock of the same size and pattern is now on the Springfield City Hall, where the dials are eight fee in diameter. The frame is something new; it consists of a solid bed, on which are placed the heavy wheels and the drum which move the hammer. The clock proper is set up in a lighter frame, which is screwed upon the bed at one end of it, thus the greatest possible strength is obtained at the smallest cost, and the clock is heed from the usual vibration resulting in the hammer striking the bell. There is also an improvement in the striking machinery; the hammer, instead of being line 1 by pine set on the

wheel placed on the dram heelf. The end of the hammer is made to fall on these care, thus producing the least of friction by the drawing motion against the pins. The friction against the bearing of the second wheel is also saved, beside the blow of the pins against the end of the hammer, which with came much less. This arrangement allows of striking the bell as hard as usual, with a smaller exposes of power, These several devices were originally invented for fog-bells that were to be placed along our rivers' banks.

WALLACK'S THEATER.

PRODUCTION OF "THE MAID'S TRAGEDY" MISS HERON AS "EVADNE"

When we heard that "The Maid's Tragedy" of Beaumont and Fletcher was to be "adapted," "expressly to enable" Miss Matilda Heron "to realize the noblest poetic creation" of the authors, " unsurpassed in terrible grandeur by the Lady Macbeth of Shakespeare," we were a little puzzled to know how the "adaptation" could be accomplished. "The Maio's Tragedy" is one of the coarsest of all Beaumont and Fletcher's coarse plays. The plot vies with the language in dirticers. Notwithstanding the grandiloquent-the impressively grandiloquent, and, we may say, thrilling-aunouncement of the placards above quoted, we must declare that there is no more likeness between "Evadne" and "Lady Macbeth" than between chalk and cheese, or wine and water. Charles Lamb, in one of his charming notes upon this very play, concludes by saying: "After all, Beaumont and Fletcher were but an inferior sort of Shakespeares and Sidneys." But the gentlemen who construct the bills are not over nice, and it was of course necessary to assure the public that Miss Heron was about to portray something very wicked and agitating "Evadne" is not a Shakesperian woman at all. She is cast in a much cheaper mold than the least successful of the great poet's creations. She lacks womanly delicacy, and, when she is not whining, raves about her injuries like a street drab. She has no high thoughted equanimity, and none of the sublime collectedness of repentent despair. She is not even, as all heroizes are, the central figure of the drama. Aspatia is as good as she, wears clothes as fine as here, and uses language quite as beautiful; and we believe that Miss Heron could make quite as much of one character as of the other. Shakespeare constructs his women compact and rounded, and all their speeches and actions are mutually dependent. There are no great gaps or solecisms. But this character of "Evadoe" is all fragments. At least, this was our impression before we saw Miss Heron's impersonation on Saturday evening. And it is still more strongly our impression now. Therefore we hope that the placard designers will take "Ludy Macbeth" out of the bills. Her presence provokes unnecessary comparisons. Miss Heron has (if we may use a nautical word)

racced "The Maid's Tragedy." This was wise for two reasons. To have given us the twin-authors' work entire would have sent a'l the modest women out of the theater, and bored all the immedest men even into a condition of coma. To be sure, when we are told of the resuscitation of "a fine old English drama," we expect to be bored, and as hissing has unfortunately gone out of fashion, we always prepare to undergo our sufferings with stern and uncomplaining patience. We wonder how many people really like a five-act tragedy, and do not congratulate themselves when Mr. Brobdignag, the great American tragedian, gives his final grunt and quiver. As for "adap ations of old English dramatists, we can only say that they are experiments not to be lightly undertaken. The blaze of Shakespeare makes the farthing candles burn dimly. The king keeps the stage, and most of the subjects, wise, witty, and melodious singers though they are, have made their exit. Of all the plays of its period and class, only Massinger's "A New Way to Pay Old Debts" is now a stock piece, and it would have been shelved long ago if Mr. Edmund Kean had not taken a fancy to play Sir Glies in a way which was dangerous to women in an interesting rituation, and which drove Lord Byron into convulsions. We do not remember a single drams of Webster, Ford, Ben Jonson, Chapman or Heywood, which is called for by the theater-goers. The comic dramatists of the Restoration have fared no better. Mr. Wallack some years since cleaned Congreve's "Love for Love," but we believe the public did not love it at all—the cleaning having taken out much of the flavor. Wycherly's "Peggy" (purified by Garrick) was beautifully played here by Mrs. Fitzwilliam, and Mr. Murdoch does something, we believe, with one of Forquhar's characters. But, as a general thing (always excepting the divine and perennial Williams), people like a fresh tap. And wisely. Old plays are for the study. To be pored on. To be smoked over. Why should not see see living manners upon our stage, as courtiers and citizens saw them at the old Globe It is no shame to us, if we like "London Assurance or "The Serious Family," or even "Box and Cox, better than "The Maid's Tragedy." If a thousandt part of the gapes of people who have yawned at Tal-fourd's "Ion" could be concentrated into a single gape, it would be powerful enough to dislocate the jaws of the bullest tragedian upon the American

beards. But we are getting a long way from the unhappy "Evadne," the lorn Aspstia, the truculent King, the strong-minded and military Melantius, and the precuckelded Amintor. Miss Heron's acting reminds us of the dancing of the Kenwig sgirls in Nieholas Nickleby, in which there was a great deal of work for the arms and very little for the legs. Miss Heron acts charmingly with her neck, bust, arms, and especially with the latter. The predominating ides when you leave the theater after seeing her is that of two arms, now waving and anon tossing, and generally doing everything of which two arms may be considered capable. In taking a position, we do not know an actress who is her equal. She fills the stage; she always stands in the right place; always walks when she should walk; kneels to perfection; and is perfectly delicious in dying. Do we under these accomplishments? Not at all. They are much-half the battle-but not all. Nor are they by ary means Miss Heron's all. Several of her scenes on Saturday evening were very clever, and received deserved applause. We say "deserved," because if we like mannerism and a sort of pre-Raphaelite actuality-a kind of woo len fidelity to na ture, and not a large and idealized impersonationactors and actresses, if they be wise, will give us what we like. That is the way to put money into the treasury. Who has not glowed with rapture at Brobdignag's death-rattle? Let him be praised for it, for it cost him a bronchitis to attain such perfection. So, too, all henor to Miss Heron's exceedingly accurate 'Evadne," of which it may wite justice be remarked that it was quite equal to her "Camille," and as good as her "Medes." She must not be thus lightly dis-missed, and we shall take an early opportunity of speaking more seriously and substantially of her pre-

As a whole, however, we suspect that "The Maid's Tragedy," even in its pruned state, bored people. It has been so cut, and sliced, and carved. und trimmed, and elipsed, and shaved, that one not familiar with the original must be bothered to know what it is all about, and why everybody in it is in such desperate humor. The play will serve the purpose of giving a little variety to Miss Heron's engagements; but as it came, so it will probably go, with her. There is nothing in it to tempt any of her sisters to

The Ninth Ward Republican Association advertise ratification meeting at Bleecker Buildings this evening, with addresses by David Dubley Filld, Esq., and Gen. James W. Nyr. The Republicans of the Nigel Ward are a live party, and the meeting will doubtless he an exterior by one. Front seam reserved for the second wheel from the drum, is acted upon by a cam ladies.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

MASONIC UNION CONVENTION. An adjourned meeting of the Free and Accepted Ma-sons, working under the Grand Lodge of the State of New-York, of which the Most Worshipful John L. Lewis is Grand Master, who are anxious to unite with the body known as the "Herring Party," met last Friday evening in Odd Fellows' Hall, Worshipful Bro. WM. GURRY in the chair, and Wor. Bros. ROBERT BEATY And Chas. F. Newton, Secretaries.

The following is the summons of the Convention to every Lodge in the city:

NEW YORK, Sept. 7, 1857.

every Lodge in the city:

To the W.M., Warden's and Berthern of this Lodge:
An adjourned meeting of the Masonic Peace Convention will be held on Friday evening, the 25th inst, at 30 clock, at the Grand Lodge rsom, Old Fellows' Hall, to hear the report of the Connection on Address, and attend to such other business as may tend to coment the Fraternity into one harmonious band throughout the State. This Lodge is extractly solicized to send respresentatives. All Master Masons in good standing are respectfully invited to be present.

Fraternally. Will LIAM GURNEY, Chairman. Rost. Braty, it, Gras. Newton. Secretaries.

The first business called up was the report of the Committee on the Address, who reported that they had performed the duties assigned them; that they had given the subject due deliberation, and the arguments therein had met the unanimous approval of the mom-

therein had met the unanimous approval of the mem-

bers of the Committee, The address to the M. W. Grand Master, Warden The address to the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Fraternity throughout the State was then read by Bro. TAYLOR. It is a very lengthy document. It reviews the position of the different bodies of the State, appeals to the Masonic feeling of the parties, defines the grounds on which the schismoriginated denies that the brethren belonging to the city were inclined to compass for union at all hazards; disclaims that the Convention union at all hazards; disclaims that the Convention have any personal ends to serve or ambition to gratify, but simply wish to do justice to the cause of Masonic progress and desire to promote the best interests of the fraternity. It concludes by inviting attention to the fact that a large majority of the lodges and brethern in this city are in favor of pasce.

The address was unanimously adopted and ordered to be printed for circulation throughout the State.

NEW-YORK PRISON ASSOCIATION.

The regular monthly meeting of the Excentive Committee of the above Association was held yesterday atterneon at 4 o'clock at the office, No. 15 Centre atterneon at 4 o'clock at the office, No. 15 Centre street. The Treasurer's report expressed deep regret that, from causes beyond their control, such as multiplied applications for pecuniary aid by discharged convicts from our State and county prisons; the absence of our annual subscribers and benefacters from the city: and the want of an efficient financial agent, their funds are exhausted, and many persons of hopeful character are unavoidably sent empty away. This deficiency, it is confidently and ardeatly hoped, will be mountly met by those who uniformly sympathize be promptly met by those who uniformly sympathize
with this unfortunate class of our erring fellow men.
After the ordinary business, the agent of the Discharged Convict and Detection Committees submitted
his district from which it

charged Convict and Detection Committees submitted his ciaries from which it appears the following have been the practical operations during the last month. Each of the detention prisons was visited an la large proportion of their immates spoken to, the com-plants against them carefully examined and appropri-ate means used to aid and help those who were regarded as fit objects of such friendly interposition

Of this number:
Persons visited in prison.
Complaints impartially and carefally examined.
Of this number 23 were discontinued on their advice as frivolons & 6.
Persons discharged from custody on their recommendation
Discharged convicts relieved with money.

To enable the Association to develop their beneve

To enable the Association to develop their benevo-lent purposes, the Committee on discharged convicts carnestly solicit the cooperation of parriot and philan-thropist in their work of mercy and labor of love. Contributions of money will be thankfully acknowledged by Henry A. Oak'ey, esq., Treasurer, No. 66 Wall street. Gifts of clothing, shirts, shoes, hats, caps, &c., will be gratefully received in behalf of those in abject poverty, daily calling from our Jails and Penitentiaries, by the agent, Abraham Beal, at the office, No. 15 Centre street.

CITY ITEMS.

The weather yesterday was of midsummer tempera ture, hot, sunny and disagreeable, although very sunny, and pleasant to enjoy from a window. At night, a real musketo breeze came up, which was exceedingly grateful to the forlorn and weary pleasure-seekers, who had sought abroad for the rum and noise not to be found in the city on Sundays.

As the Winter and the election approach, we may expect a revival of the robberies and ruffmism which were so prevalent last year. The police force is scarcely two thirds as strong as it should be, and with the best of intentions it will be impossible to watch all the rascals that infest the city. Judicious self-protection is a good thing; and a few hints as to its management may not be amiss.

Don't drink rum. Liquor is the first step toward trouble. A little renders you over bold-a little more makes you quarrelsome.

Don't meddle with strangers. A close mouth seldom

gets any one in trouble. If any loafer blackguards you, do not descend to his level and talk back. His words cannot hurt-his fist may. Keep quiet and pass on.

They are often got up purposely to pick pockets.

Don't hang around corners where vagabonds either sex resort. You will be spotted, and be apt to get a bruised face and lose your watch and money. If necessarily out at night, take the broadest and

best lighted streets, and have an eye for deep door-

ways and other hiding places. Weapons are generally more trouble than profit. A revolver is no protection against the ruffian who oounces upon you unawares. A knife is scarcely more available. Besides, if you shoot you may kill, and that is not a desirable alternative under any circum-

Thus by keeping your mouth shut against liquor and gainst babbling, by keeping out of crowds and dark illeys-in short, by minding your own business and never meddling with others, you may reasonably expect to get along at any hour without difficulty.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.-The opera was most liberally atronized during the past week, the pieces being the Elixir of Love, Barber of Seville and Il Trovatore. Owing to the "indisposition" of the tenor on Saturday evening, Ernani was not given, but the Barber o Seville was substituted in its place-a most acceptable change-Madame La Grange eliciting the heartiest applause by her chaste and correct rendition of the role of Roeins, while the Barber met with an able representative in the person of Signor Gassier. Lucrezia Borgia is announced for the last time this evening, with Mile. Frezzolini, Mile. Vestvali, Brignoli, Cassier and others in the cast.

Miss Juliana May's Concert for Tuesday evening is postponed, for reasons explained in a card in our advertising columns.

AMUSEMENTS .- Niblo's Garden -- An extra entersimment is announced for to-night; Signorins Rolla will appear in the new ballet, " La Bouquetiere," and the pantomime of "Bianco," will also be given. Wallack's Theater.-The adaptation of "

Maid's Tragedy," which was produced for the first

time on Saturday night, is announced for repetition. Laura Keene's Theater .- Mr. George Jordan, whose connection with this establishment was resumed last week without any flourish of trumpets, appears to-night in the comedy of "Living Too Fast." Two new pieces are also announced for the first time. An extravaganza, entitled "The Siam Light Guard," written by E. G. P. Wilkins, and a farce by Charles M. Walcot, called "Nothing to Nurse."

Burton's Theater .- Miss Charlotte Cushman makes her reappearance to-night, after an absence of several years from the country, as "Bianca," in the play of Fazio." Mr. Burton has adopted the very excel lent plan of announcing in advance the plays for each night of the week. Persons desiring to see any particular play can thus secure seats for that performance several days previous.

Broadway Theater .- Mr. Charles Mathews, who has drawn crowded houses during the last week, plays to-night two favorite parts, "Mr. Twiggleton," in "A Curious Case," and "Sir Charles Coldstream," in

" Heed Up." Olympic Theater.-Mrn. Charles Boward is an-

nounced for this evening to play seven parts in the two-act drams, "The Devil in Paris." An Irish farce will conclude the entertainment.

Barnum's American Museum - Nothing in the way of novelty is to be produced here this week. The "Aquaria" and the "Welsh Nightingale" have it all their own way.

Christy and Wood's Minstreds .- The Ethiopian entertainments continue to attract as large houses av ever. Something new in the way of negro theatricals will be given this week.

Rosa Bonneur's famous picture of the Herse Market was exhibited in this city at Messrs. Williams & Stevens's, on Saturday, for the first time. We can do no more than echo the applause which the most intelligent European critics have bestowed on this admirable work. Of course, it does not belong in the highest estegory of art. Its subject has nothing to do with the ideal, nor with the elevated emotions of the soul. It represents a number of heavy and powerful, but spirated Norman horses, brought up to the market of the Champs de Mars, Paris Some move quietly along, ridden by stalwart fellows, others rear and plunge violently. The picture is full of an immense vitality, force and character; and we seek vainly in it for traces of that feminine timidity and feebleness which are naturally expected in the production of a woman. Compared with Mile. Bonheur, Landseer, the English painter of animals, is but a gentle parlor sentimentalist, while Herring, the other noted Englishman, is mannered and wooden. In her the recent French setool, which has achieved such glory in histerical painting, seizes also the noblest laurel of this different department of art. The force and truth of the Horse Market are, per

haps, the qualities which most impress the amateur; but it is a tr th without exaggeration and without coarreress. The coloring is very agreeable.

It is an occasion for satisfaction that this great work is to remain in this country. It is the property of Mr. W. P. Wright of Hoboken, the same liberal patron of art who has commissioned the three large pictures of Mesers. Huntington, Hicks and Ro siter, of which we some time since gave an account. It is exhibited here by the London print-tellers, who have the right of en-

MOVEMENTS OF THE WATERS .- On Friday evening, n pursuance of private instructions, a select company of about seventy individuals, mostly residents of the Eighth and Ninth Wards, assembled in the reception room of the Lafarge House, for the avowed object of considering the best mode of effecting municipal reform. An experienced eye would have detected among them the wire-workers of party, and, in spite of their claims to the title of citizens, and of their asseverations that they were met in the capacity of citizens, the smallest amount of intuition could have penetrated their pretensions. To give the gathering an orderly look, ex-Alderman John Delamater was called to the chair, and G. G. Butler and ex-Councilman Holder were chosen Secretaries. As if by general consent, the idea of Municipal Re-

form seemed to center in electing good men to office. Accordingly, without inquiring for any other mode, the question of nominations for the approaching elections was breached. Hereupon arose debate, in which the affirmative was sustained by Dr. Price; opposed were several who were not in the league of the movers, and who horestly discussed the subject. As each "subsided," Dr. Price, on behalf of the clique, made reply. In fact he was the giant Atlas on whose brawny shoulders was supported the whole momentous movement of this spontaneous outburst of the indigcant populace. At times, while the opposition were giving home-thrusts at the manner of calling the meetng, and at the ridiculous assumptions it made, some brother" of the Eighth or Ninth Ward Council would chime in a statesmar-like expression of wisdom, as "Dry up," "Set down," "What you doing liere?"
The most "liberal" of these was from that especially
private citizen Mr. W. F. T. Chapman, formerly Grand Secretary of the Know-Nothings. He had become so fearful of a failure of the proposition to nominate candidates as to get considerably excited, and in great severity of spirit cried out to Citizen Delamater (the Chairman), "Are there not outsiders here who ain't invited?" As might be expected, this caused a stareing. Brother looked upon brother to see who was meant. Some pulled out their tickets as if to see if some mistake was not made. The Chairman whispered to the Secretaries. Dr. Price whispered to Mr. Dean. Mr. Chapman looked confused. Dr Ramsay of the Seventeenth Ward, looked bold. He arose and explained that he had no written ticket, but that a friend who knew him to be in favor of a municipal union had invited him to be present. That he claimed to be a citizen, and had a right in any meeting of citizens; but that he by no means disclaimed partisan feelings. That he op-posed nominations by a self-constituted body, like the one assembled, but if he was considered an intrude he was ready to withdraw. No objection being now made the Doctor remained. After some further dis enssion the question on nominations was taken, and decided in the negative. No little confusion resulted. The plan was disarranged and the clique worsted. But as the meeting was called togother for something, something must be done. Doctor Price proposed that the meeting recommend candidates, and that a committee of ene from each Ward be appointed to confer with the political parties with a view to secure the acceptance by them of the "recommendations." This was carried, and resulted in recommending the

For Justice of Marine Court.
For Judge of Common Pleas.
For Surrogate
For District Attorney
For Register.
For Governor Aims House.

GRAND FIREMEN'S PARADE -Protector Engine Company No 22, having visited Hartford to contend in the grand Firemen's Tournament, returned home on Saturday evening. They were received at the New-Haven Railroad Depot by their fellow-firemen, under the direction of Engineer John Decker, on the arrival of the train at 8 p. m., and escorted to their Engine-House. The procession numbered over 2,000 persons, and occupied one hour and a half in passing a given point. All the Engine-Houses along the route were brilliantly illuminated, and fireworks were let off, tarbarrels burned and cannon fired.

The engines and hose carriages were decked off in the gayest style, with colored lamps and bright-colored flags and streamers. At intervals in the line, great Drummond lights lit up the procession, and bands of torch-beafers added splendor to the parade. After an exchange of hearty greetings and a display of fireworks, the procession moved down Third avenue to Thirtcenth street, thence to Fourth avenue and Twelfth street to Broadway; down Broadway to Chambers street, and through Centre street and Park row to Broadway and Fulten street, where it was dismissed. The turn-out was got up at the instigation of Columbian Engine Company, No. 14, and was, as usual with all that the Columbians attempt, quite successful. There were seventeen bands in the procession, and the following companies took part in the

parade:
The Board of Engineers, Engine Companies Nos. 14, 22, 1, 9, 11, 13, 17, 3, 32, 34, 41, 44, 10 (of Williamsburgh) and 51. Hose Companies Nos. 1, 2, 54, 6, 7, 8, 16, 13, 20, 23, 33, 22, 37, 47, 90, 54, 65, 75, 83 and 69. Hook and Ladder Companies Nos. 1, 4, 5, 14 and 15. The following gentlemen officiated as Aids to the Grand Marshal; John Wildey Engine No. 11; Alonso Hawley, Engine No. 41; R. V. Mackey Hose No. 4; Vincent King, Hose No. 23; Ames G. Sweeney, Hose No. 26; R. Wright, Hook and Ladder No. 14; C. Mullane, Hose No. 5; John Gunson, Engine No. 17; Ferman, Hook and Ladder No. 4.

A splendid collation was served up after the parade, at the house of Columbian Engine Company No. 14, to the returned company and the officers of the companies participating in the parade. The festivities were well sustained and lasted to an early hour.

Young Soldiers .- On Saturday morning the Institute Cadets, pupils of the Rev. E. S. Schenck and John H. Van Cert of Perth Amboy, paraded in front